



# CENTRAL SHENANDOAH HEALTH DISTRICT

WEEKLY COVID-19 UPDATE & CLINIC INFORMATION

**OCTOBER 8, 2021**

## **NEW THIS WEEK!**

### CSHD IS OFFERING PFIZER COVID-19 VACCINE BOOSTERS TO ALL ELIGIBLE PERSONS

As of 9/23/2021

Millions of Americans who received the Pfizer vaccine are now recommended to get a booster dose.

#### Who's eligible for a booster?



##### Age 65+

Along with those who live in long-term care facilities



##### High Risk

Adults age 50–64 with underlying medical conditions that put them at high risk for severe COVID-19. Younger adults age 18–49 should consider getting a booster based on their individual risk assessment.



##### High Exposure

Adults age 18–64 who are: healthcare workers, teachers, daycare staff, grocery workers, people in shelters or prisons, among others.

**Questions about boosters? Talk to your healthcare provider.**

**Booster doses are now recommended for some groups of people.** The CDC recommends the following:

- people 65 years and older and residents in long-term care settings should receive a booster shot of Pfizer's COVID-19 vaccine at least 6 months after their Pfizer primary series,
- people aged 50–64 years with [underlying medical conditions](#) should receive a booster shot of Pfizer's COVID-19 vaccine at least 6 months after their Pfizer primary series,
- people aged 18–49 years with [underlying medical conditions](#) may receive a booster shot of Pfizer's COVID-19 vaccine at least 6 months after their Pfizer primary series, based on their individual benefits and risks, and
- people aged 18–64 years who are at increased risk for COVID-19 exposure and transmission because of occupational or institutional setting may receive a booster shot of Pfizer's COVID-19 vaccine at least 6 months after their Pfizer primary series, based on their individual benefits and risks.

**The top priority for VDH is still to fully vaccinate people who remain unvaccinated.** All three COVID-19 vaccines approved and authorized in the United States continue to be effective in reducing the risk of severe disease, hospitalization, and death, even against the Delta variant. Nearly all the cases of severe disease, hospitalization, and death from COVID-19 continue to occur among those not fully vaccinated. Recent data show hospitalization rates are 10 to 22 times higher among the unvaccinated compared to vaccinated adults.

**There is no rush for eligible individuals to get a booster dose right away.** Vaccine protection decreases gradually over time. Boosters of the Pfizer vaccine are recommended at least 6 months after receiving the second dose, and individuals still have good protection against COVID-19 if they don't receive a booster dose as soon as they are eligible.

**As the science and the virus evolves, so do policies and recommendations.** Booster doses are common for many vaccines. The scientists and medical experts who developed the COVID-19 vaccines continue to closely watch for signs of waning immunity, how well the vaccines protect against new mutations of the virus, and how that data differs across age groups and risk factors.

**What should I do if I received the Moderna or Johnson & Johnson vaccine?** At this time, we are still awaiting further research and guidance regarding boosters for Moderna and Johnson & Johnson. Pfizer was the first vaccine to be authorized, and therefore its data on any waning effectiveness was also available first.

**If you have completed your Moderna series and you are immunocompromised, you may receive a third dose of Moderna or Pfizer, if Moderna is not available. Speak with your primary care provider if you have questions about receiving a third dose for immunocompromising conditions.**

**Looking for an opportunity to get your Pfizer COVID-19 booster shot this week?**

Thursday, October 14, 12:00 to 5:00 p.m.  
James Madison University Convocation Center  
Pfizer (Booster doses for eligible persons, first and second doses also available)  
Johnson & Johnson (First dose)  
Walk-ins welcome. To skip the line, make an appointment at [vase.vdh.virginia.gov](https://vase.vdh.virginia.gov).

**This clinic is available to everyone in our community!**  
**You do NOT have to be faculty, staff or student at JMU.**

**OR visit any of our weekly health department COVID-19 vaccine clinics!**

**No proof of eligibility required.**



**FREE  
COVID-19  
VACCINATIONS**

October 14, 12:00 - 5:00 p.m.  
James Madison University  
Convocation Center

895 University Blvd  
Harrisonburg, VA 22807

Pfizer (Ages 12+) 2 shots  
Johnson & Johnson (Ages 18+) 1 shot

**WALK-INS  
WELCOME!**

SKIP THE LINE AND REGISTER AT  
[VASE.VDH.VIRGINIA.GOV](https://vase.vdh.virginia.gov)

**Booster doses available for eligible individuals!**



Read more about COVID-19 Booster  
Doses

**PREPARING FOR FLU SEASON: GET YOUR FLU VACCINE!**



# We get it

to protect

# ourselves from flu



### ***Why is the flu shot so important every season?***

Annual flu seasons begin in the Fall, often in October, and ends in February or March.

It's important to get a flu vaccine before the beginning of flu season later this year to make sure you don't get the flu when doctors' offices and hospitals are already crowded with COVID-19 patients. By getting a flu vaccine, you can help keep yourself healthy and give healthcare workers time to focus on COVID-19.

It is possible to catch both the flu and COVID-19 at the same time.

### ***Can you get your flu vaccine and COVID-19 vaccine at the same time?***

Yes. COVID-19 vaccines and other vaccines may now be administered without regard to timing. This includes getting a COVID-19 vaccine and other vaccines on the same day, as well as coadministration within 14 days.

### ***I'm ready to get mine! Where can I find a flu vaccine near me?***

You can get a flu shot from your healthcare provider or just about any pharmacy. Some public providers offer the flu vaccine for free. Visit the [VDH website](https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/flu) to find out where you can get your flu shot. You can also visit <http://flushot.healthmap.org/> for flu shot clinics near you.

## **CONTINUED COVID-19 TESTING CLINICS IN CSHD**

A poster for COVID-19 testing clinics. The title "COVID-19 TESTING CLINIC" is in large, bold letters, with "COVID-19" in teal and "TESTING CLINIC" in red. Below the title, it says "Testing is only available for the below individuals, regardless of vaccination status:" followed by a bulleted list. At the bottom, it says "Eligibility screening will occur onsite. Questions? Call the Staunton-Augusta Health Department at (540) 332-7830". The poster features a red heart logo with "Central Shenandoah Health District" and "Public Health in the Valley" text, and a "VDH" logo. The background has a grey and white wavy pattern.

**COVID-19  
TESTING CLINIC**

Testing is only available for the below individuals, regardless of vaccination status:

- Individuals with COVID-19 symptoms, and/or
- Individuals who have been exposed to someone who tested positive for COVID-19

Eligibility screening will occur onsite. Questions? Call the Staunton-Augusta Health Department at (540) 332-7830

The Central Shenandoah Health District continues to offer free, drive-thru COVID-19 testing clinics each week throughout the district. Testing is available for individuals, regardless of vaccination status, who have symptoms of COVID-19 and/or have been exposed to someone with a confirmed case of COVID-19. Eligibility will occur onsite.

**Monday, October 11** from 8:00 am - 10:00 am at Hillendale Park, Harrisonburg

**Tuesday, October 12** from 8:00 am - 10:00 am at Augusta County Government Center

**Thursday, October 14** from 8:00 am - 10:00 am at Hillendale Park, Harrisonburg

**Friday, October 15** from 8:00 am - 10:00 am at Augusta County Government Center

PCR tests available. A health department employee will call with results once available. Individuals should isolate until they receive a negative test. Call the Staunton-Augusta Health Department for questions or assistance: (540) 332-7830.

[Read more about COVID-19 testing guidance](#)

## UPCOMING WEBINARS OPEN TO ALL HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONALS AND STAFF

- **Wednesday, October 20th at 6:00 PM:** Join VDH for a Webinar on COVID-19 Vaccine Insights for the Pediatrician - This free event has been approved for Continuing Medical Education (CME) credit /Continuing Education (CE) credit for physicians, nurses, and pharmacists.
  - Panelists: Christy Gray, MPH, CHES, CHTS-CP; Danny TK Avula, MD, MPH; Rebecca Levorson, MD, FAAP. Moderator: Michael Martin, MD FAAP.
  - Dial In: +1-408-418-9388, Meeting Number: 132 605 3945, Webinar Link: [Click Here to Join](#)
  - [Please share details of this panel event](#) with members of your professional organizations.
- **Wednesday, November 3rd at 6:00 PM:** Join VDH for a Webinar on Understanding COVID-19 Vaccine: What the Evidence Tells Us - This free event has been approved for Continuing Medical Education (CME) credit /Continuing Education (CE) credit for physicians, nurses, and pharmacists.
  - Panelists: Richard Wenzel, MD, MSc; Chris Ghaemmaghami, MD, FACEP; Kelly Goode, PharmD, BCPS, FCCP. Moderator: Wendy Klein, MD, MACP.
  - Dial In: +1-408-418-9388, Meeting Number: 132 936 7287, Webinar Link: [Click Here to Join](#)
  - [Please share details of this panel event](#) with members of your professional organizations.

## CENTRAL SHENANDOAH HEALTH DISTRICT COVID-19 DATA

### Case Trends

The chart below illustrates the rate of cases throughout the Central Shenandoah Health District over the last 90 days.

Number of New Cases Reported^

**115**

7-Day Average Number of Daily New Cases Reported

**142**

7-Day Average Number of New Daily Cases Reported, Rate per 100,000 Population

**47.1**

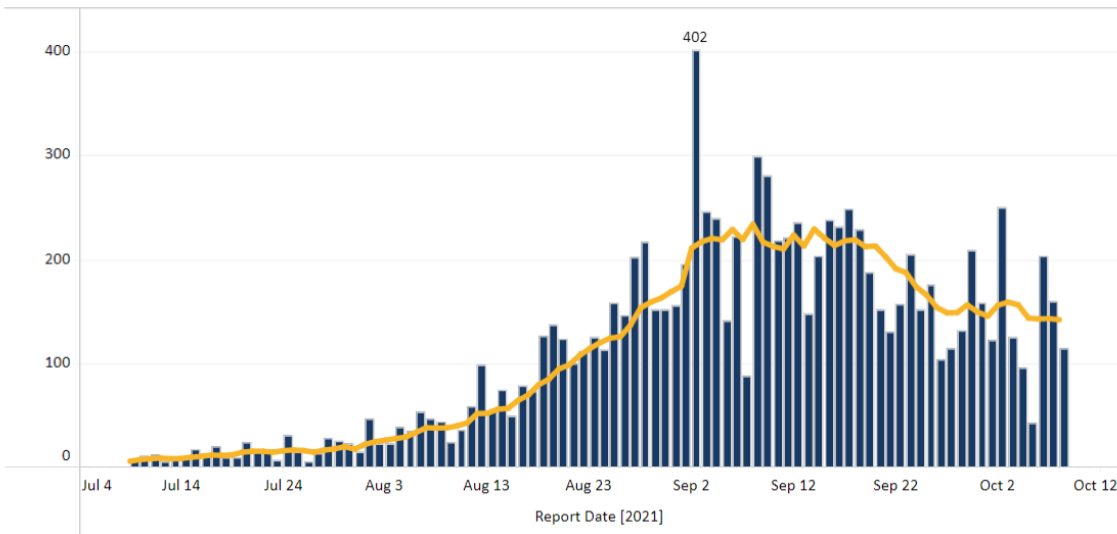
Total Number of New Cases per 100,000 Population within last 14 days

**668.0**

Report Date Daily Cases Counts for past 90 Days  
Multiple Localities

Select Date Range (Affects Bar Chart)

Past 90 Days



## Case Data Breakdown

As reported to VDH, by date of lab report. May differ from other sources, due to reporting lags. Negative numbers indicate data corrections, since March 2020. More data can be found [here](#).

	7-Day Average Number of Daily New Cases Reported	Total Cases	Total Hospitalizations	Total Deaths
Rockingham County	29	8,930	551	138
Harrisonburg City	20	8,027	240	101
Augusta County	53	9,836	279	113
Staunton City	10	3,279	96	79
Waynesboro City	11	3,351	91	42
Rockbridge County	6	2,008	70	56
Lexington City	4	1,525	33	33
Buena Vista City	7	1,207	30	22
Bath County	2	429	17	14
Highland County	1	165	2	2
<b>Totals:</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>38,757</b>	<b>1409</b>	<b>600</b>

## Vaccination Rates

You are considered to be fully vaccinated 2 weeks after your second dose in a 2-dose series or 2 weeks after a single-dose vaccine.

In the Central Shenandoah Health District, vaccination percentages are broken down by locality and city below:

	Percentage of Population receiving one dose	Percentage of Population fully vaccinated	Percentage of Adults receiving one dose	Percentage of Adults fully vaccinated
Rockingham County	51.8	47.5	62.2	57.2
Harrisonburg City	51.6	46.7	57.9	52.5
Augusta County	54.8	50.7	63.9	59.2
Staunton City	63.6	58.1	74.1	68.0
Waynesboro City	59.7	54.1	73.2	66.6
Rockbridge County	56.4	51.9	64.6	59.7
Lexington City	52.9	49.0	57.7	53.3
Buena Vista City	53.9	48.7	64.3	58.3
Bath County	54.0	48.1	61.8	55.0
Highland County	55.4	52.4	62.9	59.6
<b>Totals:</b>	<b>55.4</b>	<b>50.7</b>	<b>64.3</b>	<b>58.9</b>

### Data Sources - Find out more!

The Virginia Department of Health maintains a COVID-19 dashboard containing case, vaccination and transmission data. To find out more about this data and how it is collected, click the link below!

Visit the VDH COVID-19 Data  
Dashboard

# COVID-19 MITIGATION



Vaccination is our number one line of defense in defeating COVID-19. All COVID-19 vaccines approved and authorized in the United States are safe, effective and free. **The Central Shenandoah Health District encourages everyone who is eligible to receive the COVID-19 vaccine do so as soon as possible!**

**In addition to vaccination**, layering other public health mitigation measures can keep you and your family safe! This can include:

- **Masking up in areas of high transmission**, even if you have already been vaccinated. Currently, the majority of localities throughout the state are in a state of substantial to high transmission. Read more about transmission [here](#).
- **Practice physical distancing (also known as social distancing)**, and stay 6 feet apart from others. It is a way to slow the spread of COVID-19 by reducing close contact between people. The closer you are to other people who are not fully vaccinated and the more time you spend with those people, the higher the risk of COVID-19 spread.
- **Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.** If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol, rubbing your hands together for at least 30 seconds until they are dry.

Read more about COVID-19 Mitigation Best  
Practices

# Health Education Corner



Department of Justice Drug Enforcement Administration

# COUNTERFEIT PILLS FACT SHEET

FAKE PRESCRIPTION PILLS • WIDELY AVAILABLE • INCREASINGLY LETHAL

**CRIMINAL DRUG NETWORKS ARE FLOODING THE U.S. WITH DEADLY FAKE PILLS**

- Criminal drug networks are mass-producing fake pills and falsely marketing them as legitimate prescription pills to deceive the American public.
- Counterfeit pills are easy to purchase, widely available, often contain fentanyl or methamphetamine, and can be deadly.
- Fake prescription pills are easily accessible and often sold on social media and e-commerce platforms—making them available to anyone with a smartphone, including teens and young adults.
- Many counterfeit pills are made to look like prescription opioids such as oxycodone (Oxycontin®, Percocet®), hydrocodone (Vicodin®), and alprazolam (Xanax®); or stimulants like amphetamines (Adderall®).

**COUNTERFEIT PILLS OFTEN CONTAIN FENTANYL AND ARE MORE LETHAL THAN EVER BEFORE**

- The number of DEA-seized counterfeit pills with fentanyl has jumped nearly 430 percent since 2019.
- Officials report a dramatic rise in the number of counterfeit pills containing at least 2 mg of fentanyl, which is considered a deadly dose.
- Drug traffickers are using fake pills to exploit the opioid crisis and prescription drug misuse. CDC reports more than 93,000 people died last year of an overdose in the U.S., the highest ever recorded.
- Fentanyl, the synthetic opioid most commonly found in counterfeit pills, is the primary driver in this alarming increase in overdose deaths.

**DEA lab testing reveals that 2 out of every 5 pills with fentanyl contain a potentially lethal dose.**

**COUNTERFEIT PILLS ARE WIDELY AVAILABLE ACROSS EVERY STATE IN THE COUNTRY**

- DEA and its law enforcement partners are seizing deadly fake pills at record rates.
- More than 9.5 million counterfeit pills were seized so far this year, which is more than the last two years combined.
- Counterfeit pills have been identified in all 50 states and the District of Columbia.

**DEA and law enforcement partners are seizing deadly fake pills at record rates**

Fiscal Year	Seized Pills
FY19	2.6 million
FY20	6.8 million
FY21	9.5 million

**THE ONLY SAFE MEDICATIONS ARE ONES THAT COME FROM LICENSED AND ACCREDITED MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS**

- Drug trafficking is also inextricably linked with violence.
- This year alone, DEA seized more than 2,700 firearms in connection with drug trafficking investigations—a 30 percent increase since 2019.
- DEA warns that pills purchased outside of a licensed pharmacy are illegal, dangerous, and potentially lethal.

For more information about counterfeit pills, go to [www.dea.gov/onepill](https://www.dea.gov/onepill)

The Drug Enforcement Administration ensures the safety and health of the American public by fighting against violent criminal drug networks and foreign cartels trafficking in illicit drugs. To accomplish that mission, the Drug Enforcement Administration employs approximately 10,000 men and women throughout the world – Special Agents, diversion investigators, intelligence analysts, and chemists – across 239 domestic offices in 23 U.S. divisions and 91 foreign offices in 68 countries.

DEA logo

DATA as of September 2021

Please read this Public Safety Alert! This week, the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) warned the American public about an increase in the sale of deadly, fake prescription pills. Here's what you should know:

- Prescription pills that are purchased from sources (like social media) other than a licensed pharmacist may be fake and contain deadly ingredients like fentanyl or methamphetamine. These fake pills are more deadly than ever before and may be disguised as medications like Oxycodone, Xanax, and Adderall.
- These fake pills can be made available to anyone who uses the internet or social media, including young adults and teens.
- You can protect yourself and your family by only getting safe medications that have been prescribed by a trusted medical professional and dispensed by a licensed pharmacist.

Please protect yourselves and your families by learning more at <https://www.dea.gov/onepill>.

# COVID-19 VACCINE CLINICS

Click the button below for a full list of COVID-19 vaccine clinics happening in the Central Shenandoah Health District. The clinics are separated by region. Please note that the Pfizer vaccine is approved for ages 12+ and the Moderna and Johnson & Johnson vaccines are approved for ages 18+. These schedules are subject to change

You can register for these clinics at [vase.vdh.virginia.gov](https://vase.vdh.virginia.gov).

View the COVID-19 Community Calendars

We also continue to partner with organizations throughout the district to provide access to COVID-19 vaccines. Visit the websites below for COVID-19 vaccine clinics operated by our community partners!

- Augusta Health: <https://vaccinate.augustahealth.com/vaccine-appointments/>
- Carilion Rockbridge Community Hospital: <https://www.carilionclinic.org/covid-19-vaccine#latest-updates>
- Health Community Health Centers: <https://www.hburgchc.org/covid-19-2/>
- Rockbridge Area Health Center: <https://www.rockahc.org/coronavirus-covid-19-updates/>
- Sentra Rockingham Memorial Hospital: <https://www.sentara.com/harrisonburg-virginia/covid-19-information.aspx>

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FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT COVID-19, VISIT:

<https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/coronavirus/covid-19-in-virginia/>

